

Message Text

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ORIGIN ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SOE-02 AF-10 ARA-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00
EA-12 EUR-12 PM-05 H-02 INR-10 IO-14 L-03
NASA-02 NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05 SP-02 PA-02 DOE-15
SAS-02 CEQ-01 OES-09 SS-15 ICA-20 /180 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY
INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS PRIORITY
USDEL MBFR VIENNA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY
USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY SOFIA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BERLIN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM PRIORITY

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USSALTTWO/CTB

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PARM, SOPN

SUBJECT: AUGUST 11 ROUNDUP: PRESS ITEMS OF ARMS CONTROL
INTEREST

LONDON FOR AMB/EX, SOFIA FOR AMBASSADOR

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1. ROBERT KAYLOR OF UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL QUOTED
INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AS SAYING SOVIET PRODUCTION OF BACKFIRE
BOMBER HAS INCREASED GRADUALLY IN RECENT MONTHS. KAYLOR
SAID LAST YEAR'S PRODUCTION RATE WAS 30, BUT INTELLIGENCE
SOURCES REPORT THAT TUPOLEV PLANT AT KAZAN IS NOW TURNING
OUT BACKFIRES AT ANNUAL RATE OF 36. FURTHER INCREASE IS
EXPECTED AS LINE GETS UP TO FULL SPEED, SOURCES TOLD KAYLOR,

WHO NOTED THAT "BACKFIRE PRODUCTION IS CLOSELY TIED IN WITH SALT NEGOTIATIONS BECAUSE ADMINISTRATION HAS ACCEPTED SOVIET REFUSAL TO INCLUDE PLANES AS STRATEGIC WEAPONS IN AN ARMS CONTROL TREATY." HE SAID ADMINISTRATION HAS AGREED INSTEAD TO ACCEPT SOVIET ASSURANCE PRODUCTION WILL BE LIMITED TO CURRENT RATE. GOVERNMENT SOURCES SAID SOVIETS SO FAR HAVE DECLINED TO BE PINNED DOWN TO SPECIFIC NUMBER, KAYLOR REPORTED. INTELLIGENCE SOURCES SAID SOVIETS NOW HAVE ABOUT 125 BACKFIRES. JCS CHIEF GEN. DAVID JONES RECENTLY SAID BACKFIRE PROPOSALS ARE "NOT IN OUR JUDGMENT REALISTIC RESTRICTIONS BECAUSE THEY COULD BE CHANGED OVERNIGHT." OPPOSITIONS OF SALT TWO TREATY HAVE SAID THEY WILL USE BACKFIRE

ISSUE IN SENATE RATIFICATION DEBATE, KAYLOR POINTED OUT.

2. IN AUGUST 9 ROUNDUP, MAGAZINE IN ITEM FOUR SHOULD READ BUSINESS WEEK STED OF NEWSWEEK. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Draft Date: 11 aug 1978
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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